

# The PASNAP Pulse

[www.pasnep.org](http://www.pasnep.org)

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## The PASNAP Annual Conference will be a Sweet Treat

by Anne-Marie Crawford, MSN RN NCSN

After a long stretch of virtual meetings, the 2023 PASNAP Conference will be back in person!

For our first in-person conference since 2019, we will be at a brand new venue. Join us on April 1-2, 2023 at the Hershey Lodge in Hershey, PA. Check out the website to see what this fabulous venue has to offer conference attendees and their families: <https://www.hersheyloodge.com/meetings/>

This year we are trying something new for Friday evening. Each region will have a Region Night Out in Hershey planned by your Region Representatives. This is an opportunity to get to know others working in your region, network, and enjoy some fun together.

Lunch will have some networking opportunities, too. PASNAP has three special interest groups. Attendees can choose to have lunch with other nurses who share a common interest. Our Special Interest Groups are: Special Needs School Nurses, Private & Charter School Nurses, and School Nurse

Educators. Each Special Interest Group will have its own table at lunch. Everyone is welcome to sit at these tables at lunch and see what they are about.

Conference attendees will have the chance to get active on Saturday morning. There will be a Fun Walk and Run before the day's educational activities begin. Take this chance to walk around the beautiful resort. Our annual awards dinner is planned for Saturday evening. Join us as we celebrate outstanding school nurses from regions across the state. These inspiring nurses will be highlighted at the dinner. It is always an inspiring evening.

On Sunday morning there will be a Blessing of the Hands Ceremony to acknowledge the spiritual nature that can accompany the physical touch involved in nursing care. This short devotional is open to all who would like to attend. It is a beautiful moment to recognize the work that our hands do.

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# A Message From Our President



**Jeanette Slimmer** MSN, M Ed, BS, RN, CSN

Welcome back! With two months of the school year already behind us, and holiday events quickly approaching, we are fully immersed in the new school year. As always, I hope you all had a chance to recharge over the summer and enter the school year refocused and recommitted to your role in our school communities. Hold onto that energy and focus! It is easy to fall back into the feeling of being overwhelmed or frustrated when we face familiar challenges. But we have overcome so much in the past few years and powered through some of the most difficult situations we may have ever had in our careers. My charge to you this year is to continue to BE STRONG and BE RESILIENT. This happens to fit nicely with our 2023 conference theme “Moving Forward.”

The PASNAP Board of Directors has been working hard to continue to move our organization forward to meet the challenges of our ever-evolving practice. One of the biggest moves forward comes with our annual conference. Not only are we resuming our in-person conference, but we are taking a big move to a new venue. We are so excited to welcome everyone to the Sweetest Place on Earth in April.

Another new initiative that the Board is undertaking is creating a board committee for CSN Resource and Mentorship. For several years we have identified the need

to support not only new school nurses, but also their mentors. While this committee is still in its infancy, we are hoping great things come from them in an effort to support all of you, as well as, make the transition to school nursing a little easier for new hires.

The Board has also taken the initiative to expand our special interest groups (SIGs). Not only do we have Special Needs SIG, Nurse Educator SIG, Private, Parochial and Charter Schools SIG, but we have recently added a Diversity and Inclusion SIG. As these SIGs meet throughout the year, please consider jumping in on one of their Zoom meetings. While many of us might not work primarily in a Special Needs school, or a parochial or charter school, these populations may still be in our caseload. The information and/or concerns shared during these meetings can be invaluable. The same goes for the Nurse Educator SIG. Do you have questions about what school nursing programs are teaching, do you have ideas to share? Jump in on a Nurse Educator meeting! The Diversity and Inclusion SIG is newly created and we are excited to get those meetings up and running and have meaningful conversations regarding our role in the needs of students.

This Spring we plan to revive our “Day on the Hill” event to introduce ourselves to our new state representatives and voice our positions on relevant health legislation. Morgan Plant, our Legislative Consultant, continues to track legislation relevant to school nursing, and advise us when actions are needed.

As we continue to move forward through the 22-23 school year, please keep an eye out for communications about your region meetings, special interest group meetings and local events. Take the time to get involved and be part of the solution. Do not be afraid to speak up and be willing to share and support one another as we all work toward having a healthy and successful school year.

## **PASNAP Executive Council**

### **President**

**Jeanette Slimmer** MSN, M Ed, BS, RN, CSN

### **President Elect**

**Anne-Marie Crawford** MSN, RN, NCSN

### **Past President**

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### **CSN at Large**

**Kathy Verbel** M Ed, BSN, RN, NCSN

### **NP at Large**

**Wendy Robison** MSN BSN RN NCSN FNP-BC

**Contact your Board Members**

at

**[pasnapnurses@gmail.com](mailto:pasnapnurses@gmail.com)**



**Parent Rights, Student Rights and Where Do We Stand?**  
**Valerie Zanotti M.Ed., BSN, RN, CSN**  
**PASNAP Legislative Chair**

Pennsylvania ranks as one of the states with the most book bans, along with Texas, Florida, and Tennessee. In the Norwin School District, one of the school board members objected to the book "All Are Welcome," written by Alexandra Penfold, being read to second graders. The book has won awards and celebrates diversity and community, but is being objected to because it shows a "minority representation of straight couples" and neglects to differentiate between legal immigration and foreign invaders.

The Central York School District was thrust in the national spotlight over a book ban on some 300 books, the majority of them featuring characters of color, race, or LGBTQ issues, or marginalized communities. (Penn-Live Patriot News. Accessed 10/27/22)

In the Pennsylvania legislature, House Bill 2813 has been proposed. Also known as the "Parental Rights in Student Health Care Act," the intent of this legislation is to provide "for classroom instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity and for parental notification of student health care services; and establishing cause of action for violation." The bill further states, "A school entity may not offer instruction on sexual orientation or gender identity to a student in kindergarten through fifth grade."

As a parent, I wholeheartedly agree with parental involvement in a child's life and education. As a Certified School Nurse with 18 years of experience, I have encountered students who have questioned their sexual identity, including a fifth grader. Now, I am in a K - 4 building and am not seeing it at this level. However, I am concerned that those students most needing our help will be unable to obtain that help if our "tongues are

tyed." As school nurses, we often see students whose emotional and mental struggles manifest as physical symptoms. Occasionally, on slower days, we are able to hold conversations with those students and learn about the conflicts going on in their minds. If HB 2813 passes, are we going to be able to have these conversations with our students? Are we going to lose our jobs if we do? Previously, when I had students in 5th and 6th grades, one of my yearly tasks was the Menstruation class for 5th grade girls (the gym teacher would take the 5th grade boys for their lesson on Growth and Development). Would these much-needed lessons go by the way-side?

It does scare me because so many children do not have the parental guidance and support they so need at home. Ideally, parents should be the ones talking to their children about growing up, sexuality, and even right from wrong. But parents are not always present, and when children have questions and they come to their teacher, guidance counselor or school nurse, are we going to be able to provide guidance and answers to their questions? As trusted adults, I sincerely hope that we can help our students get the help they need without retribution.



### Conference 2023 Continued from Page 1

The venue has its own fun to offer the attendees as well. The Hershey Lodge has a wonderful pool. There is the Hershey Story Museum, Chocolate World, and the Hershey Gardens. And if you would like to splurge and pamper yourself, there is the spa at the Hotel Hershey. There is a lot to do while you are there. This might be a good year to bring your family along for the weekend. And if it happens to be your spring break, you might even want to stay a few days longer to take advantage of all the area has to offer.

Join us on April 1-2, 2023 in Hershey, PA for PASNAP 2023: Moving Forward, for a weekend of education, networking, rejuvenation, and fun. Watch for the link to reserve your room. And be sure to reserve those accommodations early so you don't miss out on staying at the beautiful Hershey Lodge. See you there!

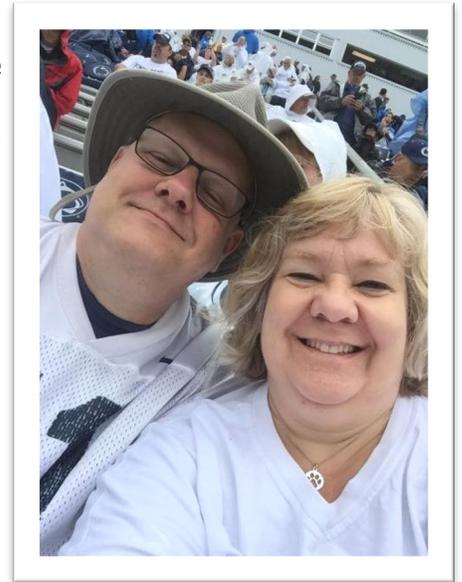
## Meet your North Central Region Rep.....

My name is Rachel Griel (“Griel” rhymes with “while”). I am honored to be serving as your north central region representative. I will be holding our regional meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at 4:30 via zoom. We will meet every month September through May except April due to the conference.

I am a certified school nurse in the Bellefonte Area School District. I am the department chair and serve on the SAP team, professional learning committee and the safety committee. I am also the central region representative of the school nurse division of PSEA. I am currently enrolled in the Doctor of Nursing practice program at Eastern Mennonite University where I also earned my master’s degree. I earned my bachelor’s degree at Penn State University and my diploma in nursing at Geisinger Medical Center School of Nursing. Before school nursing I worked primarily in critical care and as a clinical coordinator at Mount Nittany Medical Center. While I have enjoyed most of my nursing roles working as a school nurse is by far my favorite.

I live in State College. I am married to my

high school sweetheart, Lester, who is a nurse practitioner. We are celebrating our 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this year. We have two beautiful and intelligent adult children- Jennifer and Jessica. Both of whom are living at home right now due to COVID. We have two dogs - Felix and Rex. Since my daughter is living at home, my grand-cat and grand-bird are also living here. The bird is a beautiful red, yellow and green sun conure named Charlie and the cat's name is Mary Jane. I enjoy knitting, reading, going to the beach and the pool, cooking, and volunteering. I am a volunteer with Girl Scouts. I believe that all people should be able to live their truth in a safe world and I am committed to helping others to understand how this can be achieved.



## What is Your Go To? By Maureen J Callas M Ed, BSN, RN, CSN

Far too often we are faced with challenges in our Health Offices that reach beyond our scope of practice. As Nurses, we are compelled to reach farther to meet the needs of our students and families. Over the years we all have a few tricks up our sleeves to help out in the non-medical areas. Here are a few of my favorite resources to share with families . Building support and community is key, so please share your favorites too!

Beverly’s Birthdays - <https://beverlysbirthdays.org/>

Sleep in Heavenly Peace - <https://shpbeds.org/apply/>

Hello all!

My name is Wendy Robison. I am the NP at large for [PASNAP \(Pennsylvania Association of School Nurses and Practitioners\)](#). I work as a Certified School Nurse in the Western Beaver County School District as well as an urgent care Nurse Practitioner.

It is my goal to provide members with some free CEU sites as well as articles that are of interest to school nurses.

I will update these periodically and submit them to the Pulse newsletter.



## *Free Continuing Education*

The Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing accepts courses from any provider who is ANCC accredited.

### CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENT

**RNs** are required 30 contact hours every two years, including 2 hours of approved [child abuse recognition and reporting training](#).\*

**CSNs and CRNPs (non-prescribing)** are required 30 contact hours related to specialty every two years, including 2 hours of approved [child abuse recognition and reporting training](#).\*

**CRNPs with prescriptive or dispensing authority** are required 30 hours related to specialty every two years, 16 of which must be in advanced pharmacology\*\*, including 2 hours of approved [child abuse recognition and reporting training](#)\* and a minimum of 2 hours must be in [pain management, identification of addiction, or the practices of prescribing or dispensing opioids](#).

<https://tceols.cdc.gov>

<https://www.sepsisinstitute.org/>

<https://www.gotostage.com/channel/e507c6f163ae4ffa96b82164828cbc41>

<https://www.healio.com>

### ARTICLES

Some recent articles that may interest school nurses are AAP's recent article on Head Lice.

<https://www.aap.org/en/news-room/news-releases/aap/2022/american-academy-of-pediatrics-updates-report-on-controlling-and-treating-head-lice-in-children-adolescents/>

Medscape also had an article reviewing a recent study on lubrication drops instead of antibiotics for pink eye.

<https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/982030>

### CONTACT

My email is [wendy.robison@westernbeaver.org](mailto:wendy.robison@westernbeaver.org) if you would like to share your finds regarding articles and CEU opportunities.



# NCSN Testing Dates and Deadlines



For information and registration for becoming NCSN certified visit the website at <https://www.nbcnsn.org/> or contact Maureen Callas NBCSN State Liaison at NurseCallas@gmail.com  
The exam will be offered during the following testing windows in 2023:

- \***Spring Testing Window: March 1 – April 2, 2023**  
Registration Window: December 5, 2022 – February 1, 2023
- \***Summer Testing Window: July 6 – August 2, 2023**  
Registration Window: April 3 – June 6, 2023
- \***Fall Testing Window: October 26 – November 19, 2023**  
Registration Window: August 3 – September 26, 2023

\* EXAM APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE VISIBLE/AVAILABLE  
UNTIL THE APPLICATION WINDOW OPENS



## UPDATE: New PASNAP ACT 48 WEBINARS NOW AVAILABLE:

As a benefit of your current PASNAP membership, we are continuing to offer webinars that can be viewed for Act 48 credit. Please check out our website as the webinar offerings have been recently updated. Webinars can only be entered ONCE into the ACT 48 PERMS system. If you view a webinar more than once, it cannot be loaded into PERMS again. We currently provide 16 webinars on our website!



To gain access to the ACT 48 offerings please click on the menu entry: “Free Act 48 Hours—Webinars” and look through the list of offerings. After viewing a webinar -- YOU MUST COMPLETE THE EVALUATION FORM TO RECEIVE ACT 48 CREDIT for the webinar. Once that is done, you will be instructed how to receive your completion certificate. Your ACT 48 credit may take a while to be posted to the ACT 48 PERMS system. We encourage you not to wait until the last minute to get ACT 48 credits for your license renewal.

**IMPORTANT:** When completing your webinar evaluations, always be sure to ONLY USE YOUR OFFICIAL ACT 48 NAME and to double-check that you entered your CORRECT ACT 48 number. Entering either of these incorrectly will cause the submission of your ACT 48 credit(s) to be rejected. This will always cause a delay while the correct information is obtained.



Karen Flad MSN RN CSN  
PASNAP ACT 48 Coordinator





Check out this blog from our own  
Philadelphia School Nurse

Emily Hunter M. Ed., BSN, RN, CSN

[https://  
yourfavoriteschool-  
nursesays.school.blog/blog-feed/](https://yourfavoriteschool-nursesays.school.blog/blog-feed/)



## Congratulations to the 2022 PASNAP School Nurse Scholarship Winners!

- \*\*Darcy Lutz RN, CSN** - Shaler Area High School - Pittsburgh Eastern University-M. Ed in School Health Services program.
- \*\* Michelle Schonbachler, RN** - Pine-Richland High School Gibsonia—MSN at IUP
- \*\* Cassandra Cypher, RN** - North Allegheny School District Pittsburgh Eastern University- M.Ed in School Health Services

### Future Nurse Scholarship Winner:

Awarded to Carly Perez- Stroudsburg High School -  
Attending DeSales University.

Best wishes on your academic journeys!!!



## Stay in touch

PASNAP Web

<https://pasnap.nursingnetwork.com>

PASNAP e-mail

[pasnapnurses@gmail.com](mailto:pasnapnurses@gmail.com)

NASN Web

[www.nasn.org](http://www.nasn.org)

PASNAP Twitter

[@PASNAP](https://twitter.com/PASNAP)

NASN Twitter

[@schoolnurses](https://twitter.com/schoolnurses)

NASN Facebook

[www.facebook.com/schoolnurses](https://www.facebook.com/schoolnurses)

### Do you have a story, anecdote or 'aha moment you are willing to share with your peers?

- a heart warming narrative
- a student comment that made you grin from ear to ear
- a wonderful resource in the community, on the web, or for your smart phone
- a new way of doing something ( or an old way that still works great!)
- an award or accomplishment that made you proud

Send to [NurseCallas@gmail.com](mailto:NurseCallas@gmail.com) "attention Pulse newsletter "



*The PASNAP Pulse*

**PASNAP Pulse Editor**

Maureen J. Callas M Ed, BSN, RN, NCSN